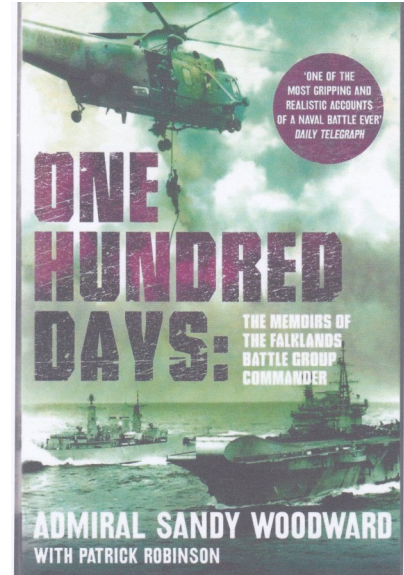




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ONE HUNDRED DAYS
Memoirs of Falklands Battle Group
Commander
Author ADMIRAL SANDY WOODWARD
Reviewed by John Cox

On 5th April 1982, three days after Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands, British armed forces were ordered to sail 8,000 miles to the South Atlantic. It soon became obvious that they were sailing to war. With no advantage in the air or on land and the vast distances involved, many felt victory was at best unlikely, and at worst, impossible. As the Battle Group Commander, Admiral Sandy Woodward was the man in charge on the front line. In this



acclaimed account, he takes us from day 1 to day 100 of the conflict; through the tragic losses of ships and men to the defeat of the Argentinean Navy and the retaking of the Islands.

The availability of the aircraft carriers, *HMS Hermes* and *HMS Invincible* together with the *Sea Harriers* were key to our success. If this war had occurred two years later, it is unlikely that we could have retaken The Falklands. The Government defence Review of 1981 planned for the reduction in destroyers and frigates, as well as numerous other surface ships. More importantly, *HMS Hermes* would have been sold to the Indian Navy and *HMS Invincible* to the Australian Navy.

Admiral Woodward states:

“I have tried to write this book as if I were telling a story to a close friend. To help me in this task I selected Patrick Robinson, who was obliged to sit very quietly, very patiently and to do a great deal of listening. I chose him because he has never served in the Royal Navy.”

Admiral Woodward later became Admiral Sir John Woodward, Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command.

‘*One Hundred Days*’ is an engrossing and authoritative retelling of those dramatic events, as well as a candid and revealing insight into what it is to lead our country to war. It is a very frank account of modern naval warfare.

I heartily recommend this book.
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John Cox